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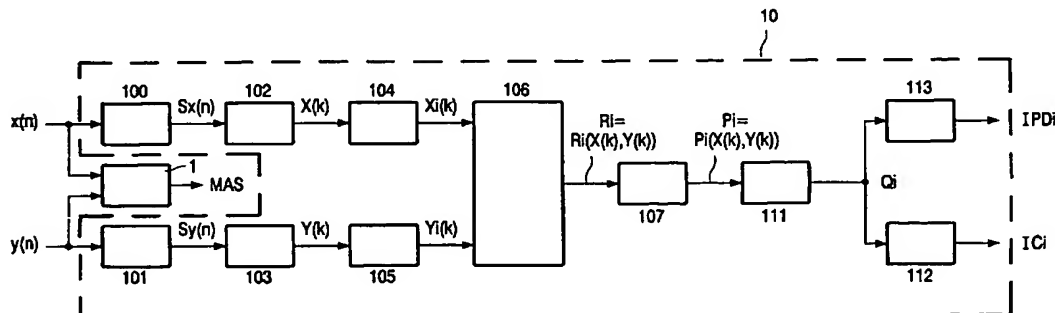
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(54) Title: **ENCODING AUDIO SIGNALS**



(57) Abstract: The encoder transforms the audio signals $(x(n), y(n))$ from the time domain to audio signal $(X(k), Y(k))$ in the frequency-domain, and determines the cross-correlation function (R_i, P_i) in the frequency domain. A complex coherence value (Q_i) is calculated by summing the (complex) cross-correlation function values (R_i, P_i) in the frequency domain. The inter-channel phase difference (IPD_i) is estimated by the argument of the complex coherence value (Q_i) , and the inter-channel coherence (IC_i) is estimated by the absolute value of the complex coherence value (Q_i) . In the prior art a computational intensive Inverse Fast Fourier Transformation and search for the maximum value of the cross-correlation function $(R_i; P_i)$ in the time domain are required.



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